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LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT

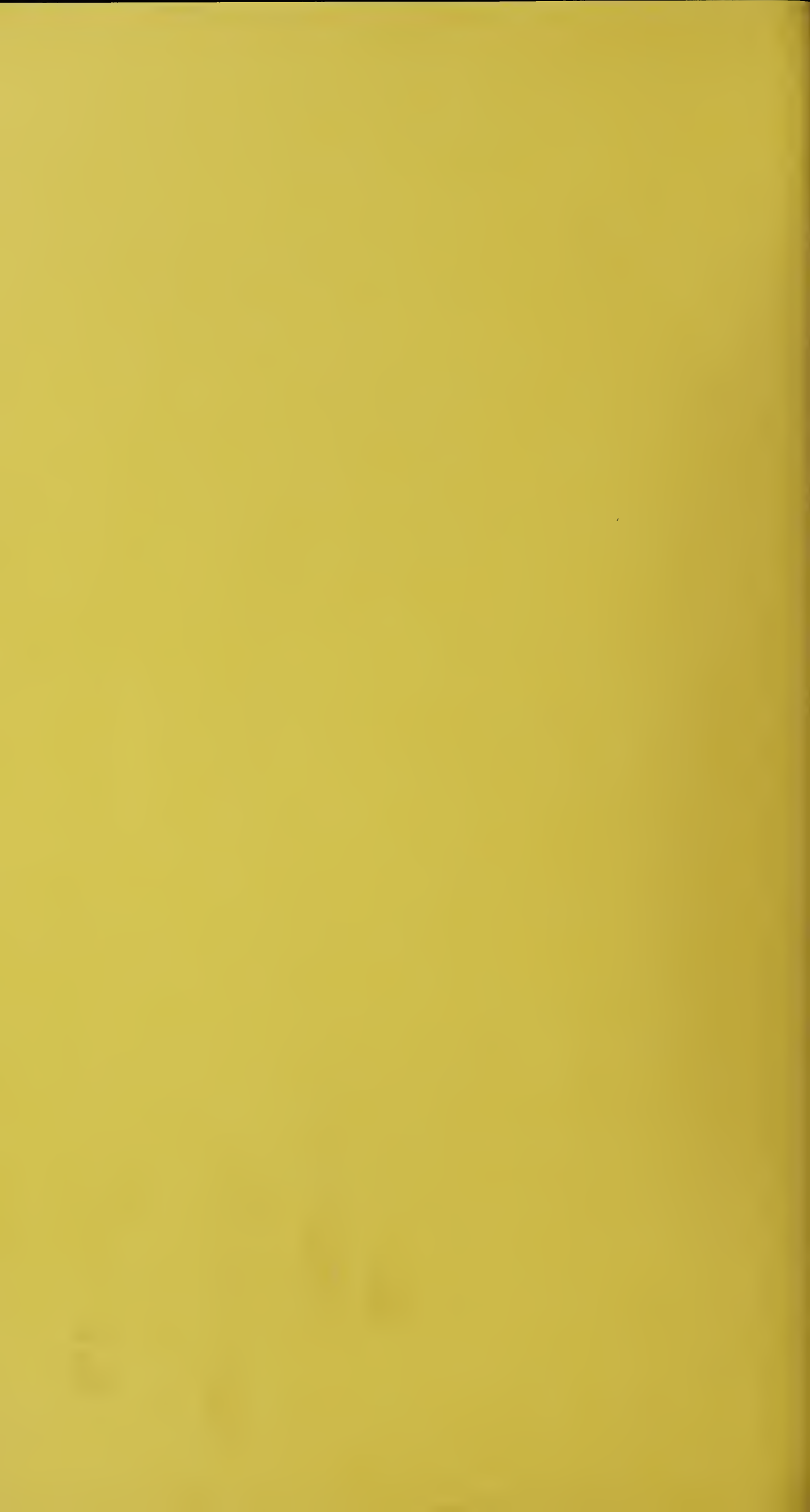
**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

for the year

1964



LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT.


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1964.



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health:

William Hall, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.Obst.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Ronald F. Saunders, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

G.S. Banks, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
L.D. Cowell, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Meat Inspectors:

I.H. Walters, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Resigned: July, 1964)  
W. Fairgrieve, Scottish Meat & Foods Inspection Certificate  
S.G. Gordon, Scottish Meat & Foods Inspection Certificate -  
(Appointed: 9th March, 1964)  
B. Reddy, Authorised Meat Inspector - (Appointed: 31st August, 1964)

Student Public Health Inspector:

R.G. Cooke (Appointed: October, 1964)

Student Meat Inspector:

R. Tong (Appointed: February, 1964)

Clerk/Typist:

Mrs. E.A. Dyke

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LUDLOW      RURAL      DISTRICT.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year  
ending 31st December, 1964.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Report on the Health of your District for the year 1964.

The Birth-rate, standardised for the district was 17.74, a figure lower than the Birth rates for the County as a whole and for England and Wales which are 18.95 and 18.4 respectively.

These figures comparable with those of last year may suggest a drift of the younger people from the more rural areas to the towns.

The Death-rate standardised for the District was 11.43. The comparable figures for the County and England and Wales are 11.62 and 11.3 respectively.

Notifications of Infectious Diseases showed a sharp increase during 1964 due to many cases of Measles occurring during the year. These are listed in Section D of the report.

There were only 18 deaths from cancer out of a total of 160 deaths, and of the 18 deaths from cancer 2, both males, were from cancer of the lung or bronchus. This is very low incidence but the figures are too small to draw any inference, as it may well happen that the current years figures may be high.

The work of meat inspection at the Shropshire Fatstock Society's Abattoir at Craven Arms has again shown an increase over the previous year. The total animals killed and inspected amounted to 128003 an increase of 29089 over the year 1963. The responsibility for organising meat inspection on this scale is a very considerable responsibility for the Council and their staff.

The completion of the Council's second Old People's Grouped Dwelling Scheme during the year must be a source of great satisfaction to the Council in general but to the residents of Cleobury Mortimer in particular.

The Department has continued during the year to provide the Environmental Health Services in Church Stretton and one hopes that the proposed amalgamation of the two authorities will not be too long delayed.

My thanks are due to Mr. R.F. Saunders and the staff of the Health Department for their willing help at all times, and for providing most of Section C of this Report, and to the County Medical Officer of Health for allowing me to publish the information in Section B.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM HALL

Medical Officer of Health.







# SECTION A.

## GENERAL & LOCAL STATISTICS.

1964.

### VITAL STATISTICS FOR ENGLAND & WALES.

Birth-rate	18.4
Still Birth-rate	16.3
Infant Mortality Rate	20.0
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	13.8
Perinatal Mortality Rate	28.2
Death-rate	11.3

### VITAL STATISTICS FOR COUNTY OF SALOP.

Birth-rate (Standardised)	18.95
Still Birth-rate	17.8
Infant Mortality Rate	18.63
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	12.77
Perinatal Mortality Rate	28.47
Death-rate (Standardised)	11.62

### STATISTICS FOR LUDLOW RURAL DISTRICT.

Area (in acres)	112,823
Registrar-General's estimate of the population (mid 1964)	13,430
Number of inhabitable houses (at 31.12.64)	4,426
Rateable Value of the District (at 1.4.64)	£321,457
Estimated product of 1d Rate	£1,247

Live Births:	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	92	104	196
Illegitimate	2	11	13
	94	115	209

Illegitimate live Births as %  
of Total live Births = 6.2%

Live Birth-rate per 1,000 of the  
Population = Crude.....15.56  
= Standardised.....17.74

Still Births:	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	1	2	3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births = 14.15

Deaths of Infants under one year of age -	Number of deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births
(a) All infants per 1,000 total livebirths	6	28.71
(b) Legitimate infants per 1,000	3	15.31
(c) Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	3	230.77
(d) Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks	6	28.71
(e) Deaths of Infants under 1 week	6	28.71
(f) Perinatal Mortality Rate	42.45 per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	

Maternal Mortality:- Nil

	M.	F.	Total
Deaths	73	87	160
Death rate per 1,000 of the population = Crude			11.91
= Standardised			11.43

### Population:

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population in the Rural District at the 30th June 1964 was 13,430. This was 20 less than the estimated figure for the previous year.

### Births:

Live births numbered 209 (Legitimate - 193, Illegitimate - 13) giving a 'Crude' birthrate of 15.56. Applying the comparability factor of 1.14 the corrected birth rate becomes 17.74.

### Still Births:

There were three still births and this gives a still birth rate of 14.15 against the rate for the Country as a whole which is 16.3. The figures upon which the still birth-rate is calculated are so small that the rate has little significance.

### Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

Six deaths were reported of children under the age of one year. The Infant Mortality Rate is therefore, 28.71. The Infant Mortality Rate for the Country is 20.0.

### Deaths:

The total number of deaths registered was 160 (male 73, female 87) an increase of 21 compared with the previous year. This gives a 'Crude' Death rate of 11.91 when the comparability factor of 0.96 is applied the comparable death rate becomes 11.43. Figures showing the chief causes of deaths will be found at the end of the Report.

### Natural Increase of Population.

The number of live births exceeds the total number of deaths by 49.

## SECTION B.

### Personal Health Service.

These Services are provided by the County Council under the authority of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

#### Care of Mothers and Young Children.

##### (a) Child Welfare Centres.

Child Welfare Centres are provided in Ludlow and Cleobury Mortimer and are held as follows:-

Cliftonville, Dinham, Ludlow.	:	Every Monday
East Hamlet Hall, Ludlow	:	Every Thursday
Parish Hall, Cleobury Mortimer	:	1st & 3rd Wednesdays in each month

Attendances at these Welfare Centres during 1964 were as follows:

Welfare Centre	Total Cases	Total Attendances
Ludlow (Dinham)	159	885
Ludlow (East Hamlet)	96	645
Cleobury Mortimer	143	868

An ante-natal clinic is also held at the Ludlow Child Welfare Centre every Monday, being conducted by one of the County Council's Assistant Medical Officers. The Ludlow District Nurse-Midwives hold their own ante-natal clinic at the Centre on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons each month.

It is impossible to give any indication in the table above of how many of the children attending the Ludlow Centre are children from the Rural District and one must assume that the majority are from the Borough.

##### (b) Care of Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

A Moral Welfare Worker employed by the Hereford Diocesan Association to whom an annual grant is paid by the County Council, is based in Ludlow and works throughout the Rural District.

The County Council also makes substantial grants to two Mother and Baby Homes affiliated to the Lichfield Diocese, but within the County, to which cases from any County District may be admitted.

##### (c) Distribution of Welfare Foods.

People living in Ludlow Rural District normally obtain National Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Codliver Oil and Vitamin Tablets) at the County Councils Welfare Centre, Dinham, Ludlow on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings. For those people living some distance from Ludlow arrangements exist whereby National Welfare Foods are distributed by Voluntary Workers from Distribution points in the following districts:- Clee Hill, Clee St. Margaret, Cleobury Mortimer, Craven Arms and Munslow.

#### Midwifery:

The County Council employ a total of eleven midwives in the Ludlow Rural District, and two of this number also operate in the Borough.

Throughout the whole area they undertake district nursing as well as midwifery duties.



The following table gives details of the midwifery work carried out by these midwives during 1964:-

Nursing District	Total Confinements	Total Domiciliary Visits	Attendances on Discharged Institutional Cases	
			Cases	Visits
Burford	10	273	10	36
Church Stretton	16	393	33	185
Cleobury Mortimer	16	433	47	137
Craven Arms	7	175	16	66
Ludlow	26	652	19	127
Munslow	6	141	5	20
Stoke St. Milborough	5	118	12	23

The nursing Districts comprising groups of parishes, do not conform to the Rural District Boundary and the figures given above therefore in some cases (Church Stretton and Ludlow) will include many cases from outside the Ludlow Rural District.

Health Visiting.

Two full-time Health Visitors are employed by the County Council in the Ludlow Rural District and one of these (Miss F.M. Lydiate) who is based in Ludlow also undertakes health visiting in the Borough.

Home Nursing.

As stated above the midwives employed by the County Council in the Rural District undertake the home nursing duties.

Only in the Borough of Ludlow itself does the County Council employ a Home Nurse solely to undertake these duties.

Cases attended and visits made during 1964 were as follows:-

Nursing District	Home Nursing Cases	Visits
Burford	75	1678
Church Stretton	359	5834
Cleobury Mortimer	139	2029
Craven Arms	78	2358
Ludlow	144	4282
Munslow	72	1116
Stoke St. Milborough	39	517

## Vaccination and Immunisation.

Protection is offered, in particular to pre-school children, school children and in special circumstances to others, against Smallpox, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis and to children of and above the age of thirteen years against Tuberculosis.

The immunisation procedure is carried out in many cases by General Medical Practitioners, and by School Medical Officers in Clinics and Schools.

The tables below give the numbers of children from the Rural District who have availed themselves of the facilities offered.

### VACCINATION & IMMUNISATION.

1964.

		County Council Medical Officers	General Practitioners	Total
Diphtheria				
Primary		58	124	182
Boosters		172	38	210
Whooping Cough				
Primary		51	120	171
Smallpox				
Performed		59	100	159
Successful		58	98	156
Tetanus				
Primary		161	156	317
Poliomyelitis	3rd doses or injections	106	106	212
	4th doses or injections	69	20	89

B.C.G. VACCINATION - 1964.

SCHOOL	CONSENT FORMS RECEIVED	REFUSALS	NUMBER OF CONSENTS PRESENTED	NUMBER OF CHILDREN SKIN TESTED	SKIN TEST READINGS		NUMBER VACCINATED
					POS.	NEG.	
Stokesay	6	-	6	6	-	6	6
Cleobury Mortimer	45	2	43	43	3	38	38
Culmington Hill House	5	-	5	5	1	4	4
City of Coventry	26	1	25	25	5	20	19



## Ambulance Service

The Central Ambulance Station is in Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury (Tel. No. Shrewsbury 6331).

There is a local Ambulance Depot in Ludlow where four ambulances and one dual purpose vehicle are based.

Drivers are on call and can be called out at any time during the day or night.

One fitting case vehicle is also kept at a garage in Craven Arms for local convenience.

During 1964 these six vehicles made 3667 journeys carrying 10,530 patients a total distance of 140,296 miles.

Arrangements for calling out ambulances are normally made through doctors and hospitals but in emergency, calls from anyone are put through to the Central Ambulance Station and appropriate arrangements made.

## Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

(a) All home nurses and midwives hold a small supply of minor articles of nursing equipment such as hot water bottles, air rings, bed pans and feeding cups, for loan to patients being nursed at home.

(b) The treatment of tuberculosis falls to Regional Hospital Boards to provide in the way of Sanatoria and Chest Clinics, but the preventive and after care side of the work is shared between the Hospital Boards and Local Health Authorities. The County Council for their share provide open-air shelters where required. They also join with Regional Boards in making from time to time local arrangements for Mass Miniature Radiography Surveys, and through their Health Visitors undertake a considerable amount of follow-up work with patients. Extra nourishment may in necessitous cases be provided.

(c) Arrangements are made under this section for the convalescence of persons not requiring special medical or nursing care.

(d) Through their Mental Welfare Officers and Health Visitors the County Council are responsible for the supervision in their own homes of mentally handicapped persons and also for helping general medical practitioners to secure hospital treatment for those persons who become mentally unbalanced.

## Domestic Help.

The County Council provides a fairly comprehensive Domestic Help Service through branch offices.

The greater part of this area is served from the Ludlow Home Help Office which is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons. A small section in the North, however, is served from the Church Stretton Home Help Office which opens on Monday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

During the year ended 31st December 1964 the services of the County Council's Home Helps directed from the Ludlow Office were made available in 73 homes in the Borough and Rural District. In 71 cases the help was provided for the benefit of aged and chronic sick persons, in one case help was needed on account of temporary illness and in a further home a domiciliary confinement had occurred.



## Hospital Services.

In addition to the Services provided by the County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, the Hospital and Specialist Services provided by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board must be briefly mentioned.

The District is served principally by the hospitals under the Shrewsbury Hospital Management Committee centred at the Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury. The Ludlow and District Hospital and East Hamlet Hospital serve local needs and Specialist Clinics or Out-Patient Sessions are held at the first mentioned hospital as follows:

Out Patient Clinic	Day & Time	Consultant
Gynaecological	Wednesday 2 p.m.	Mr. S. Burke
General Surgery	Alternate Wednesdays	Mr. J.A. Baty
General Medicine	Alternate Mondays 2.30 p.m. Alternate Wednesdays 9.45 a.m.	Dr.A.W.J. Houghton Dr.W.D. Wallace
E.N.T.	Alternate Mondays 1.45 p.m.	Mr. E.N. Owen
Paediatric	Third Tuesday in month 2.0 p.m.	Dr.J.C. Macaulay
Psychiatric	Friday 2.0 p.m.	Dr.J. Littlejohn
Radio Therapy	1st Saturday in month 11.0 a.m.	Dr.E.J.Richardson

An orthopaedic after care clinic is held at East Hamlet Hospital on Monday afternoons at six weekly intervals.

A Chest Clinic is held on the third Tuesday in each month at 11.0 a.m., at the Child Welfare Centre, Dinham, Ludlow. Although this clinic is provided by the Regional Hospital Board it is held at the County Council's Centre.

Cases from the District are admitted to the Royal Salop Infirmary, The Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital and Copthorne Hospital, Shrewsbury, or elsewhere as the need arises.

## Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory at the Royal Salop Infirmary is extensively used for the bacteriological examination of water, milk and ice cream.

Chemical analyses of water samples and sewage effluents are made by the Public Analyst at Warrington.

Good Laboratory facilities are very necessary to the work of the Health Department, and I should like to express my thanks to Dr. A.C. Jones of the Shrewsbury Laboratory and his staff for their assistance, in particular perhaps for their invaluable advice when some bacteriological or epidemiological problem arises.

SECTION C.

1. Sanitary Circumstances in the Area.

(a) Water Supplies.

Purity of Supplies:

The undermentioned samples were taken for bacteriological examination from public supplies.

<u>Source</u>	<u>Total No.</u>		
	<u>of Samples</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Birmingham Aqueduct	4	4	-
Bitterley	4	4	-
Burford	3	3	-
Clee Hill	5	3	2
Clee St. Margaret (a) Council Houses(bore)	4	2	2
(b) Village Well	4	3	1
Cleobury Mortimer	4	3	1
Coreley	4	3	1
Craven Arms	8	8	-
Culmington & Seifton	5	5	-
Diddlebury	5	4	1
Hope Bowdler	5	4	1
Longville-in-the-Dale	5	5	-
Middleton	3	3	-
Munslow	5	5	-
Onibury	4	4	-
St. Milburgha's Well	6	4	2
Ticklerton	4	4	-
Wall-under-Heywood	5	4	1
Totals	87	75	12

In addition one sample was taken from the borehole at Soudley, (prospective public supply). The result was unsatisfactory.

Eighty four per cent of all samples from public supplies were reported as 'satisfactory' or 'highly satisfactory'.

Co-operation with Water Board.

Copies of reports were forwarded to the Engineer of the East Shropshire Water Board. In the cases of unsatisfactory reports the results were telephoned and immediate action was taken by the Board to put matters right. The Board is progressing with water supply schemes for the Crumpsbrook and Stoke St. Milborough areas. These schemes will make possible the much needed improvement of many properties in the areas.

Private Supplies:

Particulars of samples taken	Satisfactory	31
	Unsatisfactory	66
Total		97

Advice is given by the public health inspectors in most cases where the sample result is unsatisfactory. Many supplies are improved in this way. In fact, most of the satisfactory results mentioned were the outcome of remedial works recommended by the inspectors.



(b) Drainage, Sewerage & Sewage Disposal.

Burford.

A survey of existing drainage was carried out at Burford in connection with the Council's proposed sewerage scheme for the area. As regards outlying properties, from a public health viewpoint it is obviously desirable that as many houses as possible should have sewerage facilities, these facilities give improved environmental conditions.

Wistanstow.

A survey, similar to that at Burford, was carried out during the year in the Wistanstow, Cheney Longville and Bushmoor area.

Private Drainage.

Several complaints were received about unsatisfactory drainage especially in relation to discharge into roadside ditches. This practice causes foul conditions and, sometimes, considerable nuisance to persons living quite a distance from the actual discharge.

There has been a good deal of improvement of late. Some drainage nuisances affecting water courses have been dealt with jointly by the Department and the Severn River Board.

Closet Conversions:

During the year the following grants of £25 per closet conversion were paid by the Council.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>No.</u>
Burford	3
Clee Hill	3
Cleobury Mortimer	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>7</u>

It is felt that the main usefulness of this scheme has now passed since the improvement grant schemes for houses - discretionary and standard - can include conversion schemes and at the same time bring the dwellings generally up to modern standard.

(c) Refuse Collection & Disposal.

Frequency of Collection.

This very necessary and important public health service has been maintained during the year with the collection frequency arranged a few years ago, i.e. weekly in Craven Arms and Cleobury Mortimer and fortnightly elsewhere. The collection and proper disposal of refuse is not only important as a means of removing people's waste, but it is also important in securing a higher standard of hygiene, and preventing nuisance from smell, vermin, insects and the spread of infectious disease.

Disposal.

Four tips have been in regular use during the year - at Cleobury Mortimer (Mawley), Craven Arms (Shawbank), Onibury Lane and Woofferton. A small tip at Westhope has been used occasionally. About 60 trees were cut down and sold from the Woofferton tip to make way for tipping. Cleobury Mortimer tip is filling faster than was expected, mainly as a result of the increased collection service provided a few years ago and the increased amount of refuse per household now collected.

The tips have been kept in order by the use of a hired bulldozer as necessary.

## Vehicles:

The two Shelvoke & Drewry vehicles have given good service. Only one major repair was needed during the year. The vehicles were regularly serviced during the year by the makers engineer.

## Future improvements:

Possible alterations in the service to improve environmental conditions are:

1. A more frequent collection for the country areas.
2. Collection from the premises instead of from the roadside.
3. Some fully controlled method of disposal - such as controlled tipping with use of mechanical equipment.

## Litter:

Well over 100 bins are now in use in the rural district; in general two types, the 40 gallon oil drum painted green and a small neat bin rectangular in section. Use of wire baskets is being discontinued chiefly because they allow small pieces of paper such as bus tickets or similar to fall through.

The bins were emptied regularly on the normal collection rounds. Special collections were made at holiday times at places such as Clee Hill Common where large numbers of people, chiefly motorists, congregate.

## (d) Rodent Control:

### Number of Operators.

One - Mr. F. Mear.

### Contracts.

At the end of the year 74 contracts for the destruction of rats and mice were in force (78 in 1963).

### Single Treatments.

Thirty one single treatments were carried out.

### Church Stretton.

Regular treatments were carried out for the Church Stretton Urban District Council.

### Warfarin Resistance:

Towards the end of the year a case of "Warfarin resistance" was reported from the Westhope area. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food carried out a detailed investigation at one farm and the Public Health Department made a survey of the surrounding area.

It was established that there was very strong resistance to Warfarin covering an area of several square miles. Warfarin has, of course, been an excellent rat killer for many years; up to now it has given good results even when used by untrained persons and it has been safe in use. With the development of resistance, and the likelihood that it will spread, other means of killing, such as the use of acute poisons, will have to be employed; this will involve more work and increased danger.



## Enforcement:

Five notices under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 were served in relation to a block of houses in the North of the district where a combined or "block" treatment had to be given.

### (e) Factories & Workshops.

Numbers in the Register -	Factories with mechanical power	66
	Factories without mechanical power	<u>11</u>
	Total	<u>77</u>

### (f) Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1964.

Coming into force: 1st August, 1964.

Administration: Partly by Local Authorities.  
Partly by Government Departments.

General Provisions: In general this new Act is concerned with the welfare of employees; it applies to all offices and shops, including fuel stores and railway premises. There are, however, certain exceptions; these are based mainly on the number and relationship of employees and the number of hours worked.

Main Provisions: These relate to

- (a) Cleanliness
- (b) Overcrowding
- (c) Temperature
- (d) Ventilation
- (e) Lighting
- (f) Washing facilities
- (g) Sanitary accommodation.

Various other provisions concern drinking water, seating, stairs, and safety precautions.

Registrations: All premises should have been registered by 31st July, 1964. In fact, in this district, only about half the registrable premises were registered by that date.

This state of affairs appeared to be general throughout the country. Work was therefore divided into (a) obtaining registrations from those who had not registered and (b) carrying out initial inspections.

### (g) Inspections by the Public Health Inspectors.

Housing (Public Health and Housing Acts)	940
Water Supply	272
Drainage	270
*Meat Inspection & Abattoir Supervision	267
Refuse Collection & Disposal	198
Caravans and Moveable Dwellings	164
Food Hygiene	149
Housing Applicants	149
Poultry Inspection	71
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises	68
Rodent Control	57
Agriculture, (Safety Health & Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956	24
Infectious Diseases	21
Atmospheric Pollution	14
Factories & Outworkers Premises	12
Knackers Yards	9
Miscellaneous	<u>112</u>
Total	<u>2727.</u>

\* This figure does not include the work carried out by the full time meat inspectors.

Number of Statutory Notices served (other than under the Housing Acts).

Rodent Control 5  
These notices were complied with.

Number of informal notices served:

House repairs	54
Drainage	<del>29</del>
Water supply	27
Caravans	20
Food Hygiene Regulations	18
Footpaths	4
Polluted watercourses	3
Other matters	<u>15</u>
Total	<u>170</u>

Most of the notices, except those served late in the year, were complied with by 31st December.

This summary and the report generally refers only to the Ludlow Rural District. It does not include Church Stretton where work is done for the Urban District Council.

### 3. Housing.

#### General Statement:

(A) Number of inhabitable houses; including Council houses and business premises with living accommodation as at 1st January, 1964

4377

Additions: Number of houses constructed during the year:

(a) Council houses	23
(b) Private houses	44

Number of additional houses provided by the conversion of older houses	1
Flat provided over shop	1
Number of houses brought back into use as a result of complying with undertakings	<u>7</u>
	4453

Deductions: Number of houses (1) Closed 13  
(2) Demolished 6

(Excluding 4 previously reported as Closed)

Conversion of two or more houses into one	5
Council owned houses vacated and closed	<u>3</u>
	<u>27</u>

27

Number of inhabitable houses, including Council houses and business premises with living accommodation as at 31st December, 1964

4426

#### (B) House Allocation.

##### General:

During the year the new Old Peoples Dwellings at Cleobury Mortimer were allocated by the Tenancies Committee and a number of casual vacancies were filled. Visits and enquiries were made in connection with these allocations.



Number of applications on the register:

Early in the year following the annual review	272
At the end of the year	333

(C) Action under Housing Acts.

The following is a summary of statutory action taken during the year regarding unfit houses.

Number of houses closed under terms of Closing Orders	6
Number of houses closed under terms of undertakings given by owners	7
Number of houses demolished	10
Number of houses made fit and undertakings or orders revoked	7

Informal Action:

Number of houses made fit as a result of informal action 12

(D) Housing Conditions.

General: Housing conditions generally are gradually improving being helped greatly by the very worthwhile expansion of public services, particularly water and electricity supply.

The position at Cleobury Mortimer was helped during the year by the completion of the Council's grouped dwellings scheme for elderly persons; this allowed a number of old, unfit houses to be put out of use. Completion of the new Council houses there and many private enterprise houses will help still further.

Throughout the district as a whole many houses that are unfit in varying degree still remain to be removed or repaired and reconditioned to modern standards of amenity. In this connection the Housing Act, 1964 is an indication of the present trend.

The voluntary improvement of houses under the improvement grants scheme, actively supported by the Council, (80 schemes approved in 1964) is having a very worthwhile effect. Further, the large new building schemes under consideration by the Council will probably lead to a general uplift in housing conditions.

Housing Act, 1964.

This Act gives local authorities various new powers and duties. One important new power is that of being able, under certain circumstances, to require the improvement of dwelling houses to full modern standard. By the end of the year some preliminary survey work had been done at Cleobury Mortimer and Craven Arms.

(E) Moveable Dwellings.

Standards Only a few years ago the Council's standards for caravan sites (based on the model standards) were, in general, higher than the average caravanner at that time expected. Today the caravanner often expects standards higher than the ones required by law. Such items as site layout, screening and provision of electric shaver sockets are taken into account by the caravanner when choosing a site.

Site Licences:

Number of site licences in force	34
Number of caravans used for weekend or holiday purposes	145
Number of caravans used permanently	30
Number of moveable dwellings on these sites separately licensed under the Public Health Act, 1936	2



## Conditions:

Conditions, generally, were satisfactory. Following the granting of outline planning approval, applications are being dealt with for holiday sites covering a further 120 caravans.

### 4. Inspection & Supervision of Food.

#### (a) Meat Inspection.

Number of slaughterhouses: As in the previous year, the only slaughterhouse in use during 1964 was that of the Shropshire Fatstock Society at Craven Arms. The total number of animals slaughtered was 128,003 (1963 98,914).

#### Slaughtering Hours:

Hours of slaughtering, particularly during the late Summer and Autumn, were long and irregular; for the greater part of the year there was slaughtering every Sunday until after midday.

Staff - new rota system: The general effect of the higher inspection standard of the 1963 Meat Inspection Regulations and the increased throughput was need for more staff. In March the Council appointed an additional meat inspector. In the Autumn, the Council agreed to a new four man rota system under which four men (two on, two off) give full meat inspection service for the seven days of the week. This new system was introduced using the services of the meat inspector trainee working under the supervision of the Senior Meat Inspector. The trainee is doing well and will take his qualifying examination shortly.

Throughout the year (before the introduction of the new system) the additional public health inspectors did a good deal of relief work at the Abattoir.

Charges: The maximum charges allowed by the Regulations were maintained during the year.

Export meat: For a short time during the year consignments of meat from the abattoir were exported to France and Belgium. These consignments had to be certified under agreed international export arrangements.

Slaughterhouse extensions: During the year structural alterations and additions were carried out at the Abattoir to provide increased hanging and cooling space and a new sheep slaughtering hall. At the end of the year these works had not been completed.

Drainage: The Abattoir drainage was altered during the year and blood tanks installed; this was to meet the Council's requirements under a trade premises agreement.

Numbers of animals slaughtered and carcasses  
inspected in 1964 (Figures for 1963 in brackets).

	Cattle (Ex. Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Numbers killed	10310	1704	3334	83510	29145	128003
Numbers inspected	10310 (8022)	1704 (2069)	3334 (3797)	83510 (55381)	29145 (29645)	128003 (98914)

All diseases except Tuberculosis  
and Cysticercus Bovis.

Whole carcasses condemned	9	16	48	347	36	
Organs or parts condemned	1905	812	22	2801	3009	
Percentage affected	18.56%	48.59%	2.10%	3.77%	10.45%	

Tuberculosis Only.

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1	
Organs or parts condemned	-	4	-	-	373	
Percentage affected	-	0.23%	-	-	1.28%	

Cysticercus Bovis.

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	
Organs or parts condemned	15	-	-	-	-	
Percentage affected	0.15%	-	-	-	-	

Weight of meat condemned:

1. On account of Tuberculosis	3956 lbs.
2. On account of Cysticercus Bovis	721 lbs.
3. On account of other diseases	<u>90319 lbs.</u>
	<u>94996 lbs.</u>

= 42 tons, 8 cwts, 20 lbs.

(b) Poultry Inspection:

Extensions:

During the year various extensions of premises and plant have been made at The Grove, where vast numbers of poultry and turkeys are killed and prepared for sale.

Visits and inspection:

Regular visits were made and also some special visits for the voluntary surrender of carcasses. Following arrangements made several years ago, the owners have their own "spotting" arrangements to detect unsound, unthrifty or unsaleable carcasses.

Hygiene:

The extensive premises, which contain masses of complicated equipment for handling birds on the "line" system are well maintained and the owners are always co-operative over making any suggested changes for improvement.

Lavatory accommodation:

Extra lavatory accommodation (to Factories Acts standards) was provided during the year for increased staff.



(c) Other Foods:

Typhoid Outbreak: In common with all other inspectors throughout the country, the public health inspectors made a complete check of tins of corned beef held by food establishments following the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak. No suspect tins were found in the district.

Conditions in food shops generally were satisfactory.

Ice Cream:

Number of premises registered for the sale of	
ice cream at 31st December, 1964	43
Manufacturers	Nil

Most sales were of prepacked ice-cream; conditions were satisfactory.

5. General:

(1) Knackers Yards.

Number in the district	2
Situation:	Sparchford & Lower Stanway

Most work was done at Sparchford.

Maintenance:

The premises were maintained reasonably well but it was found that bone storage arrangements were unsatisfactory and were causing considerable blow fly nuisance. New Stores, properly fly proofed, were provided.

Cooked Meat:

At the Sparchford yard large quantities of meat were cooked and made up into packs for cat and dog food.

(2) Air Pollution:

Discharges: Two factory chimneys have given trouble during the year. Black smoke was observed coming from the chimney of an oil fired boiler in the South of the district. On investigation it was found that the cause was the burning of an unsuitable oil, purchased to keep the plant in operation during a strike of the delivery drivers. This indicates the need for keeping to the correct grade of fuel.

In the other case wet solid fuel appeared to be the cause of the unsatisfactory discharge.

Number of visits and observations made during the year. 14

Conclusion: In conclusion, I wish to thank all the staff and workmen of my department who have worked loyally and well throughout the year.

R.F. SAUNDERS

Chief Public Health Inspector.



## SECTION D.

### Prevalence of Infectious Disease.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES:

The following cases were notified during the year ended 31st December, 1964:-

Scarlet Fever	-	4	Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	2
Measles	-	358	Tuberculosis (Non-Respiratory)	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	3	Dysentery	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	-	10	Erysipelas	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	Meningococcal Infection	-	-

The total number of notifications received was 377 compared with a total of 57 during 1963, the increase being attributable to a rise in the number of measles notifications.

#### Diphtheria.

There have been no cases of this condition in the District during the last twenty-one years.

#### Poliomyelitis.

No cases of Poliomyelitis were reported.

#### Tuberculosis.

Two cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified during the year but there were no deaths from any form of the disease.

Particulars of the 60 cases remaining on the Tuberculosis Register on 31st December 1964 are as follows:

	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis
Male	26	8
Female	19	7
	<u>45</u>	<u>15</u>

#### CAUSES OF DEATH, 1964.

<u>Cause</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Diseases of Heart & Circulatory System	27	27	54
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	14	20	34
Malignant Diseases	8	10	18
Bronchitis	5	4	9
Pneumonia	3	5	8
Diabetes	-	3	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All other Accidents	3	3	6
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide & Operations of War	-	-	-
Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-
Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis	-	-	-
All other causes	11	15	26
Total	<u>73</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>160</u>

Deaths from Cancer (all forms):-	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Population
Ludlow Rural District	18	1.34
County of Salop	621	1.99

Of the 18 deaths from cancer 2 males died of cancer of the Lung or Bronchus. Thus 11.17 of cancer deaths were due to this form, representing a death rate of 0.15 per 1000 population.



APPENDIX.

Factories Act, 1961.

1. Inspection for purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	66	10	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	77	12	-	-

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	To H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature(S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation(S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.5)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
Total .....	-	-	-	-	-

3. Outwork.

Nature of Work

No. of Outworkers in August list

Brass and brass articles

8





